

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application, the allowance of claim 33, and the indication that claims 37-40, 43-47, and 49-53 contain allowable subject matter. The Office Action, however, rejected claims 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). The Office Action also rejected claims 41, 42, and 48 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Applicants have amended claim 34 to make certain minor editorial changes, and claim 48 is canceled. Claim 49 is amended to write it in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim. Claim 50 is amended to be dependent upon claim 49. No new matter is introduced into the application by these amendments.

Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by *Choi* (US 6,072,210). For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Office Action asserted that *Choi* (US 6,072,210) discloses a DRAM structure which comprises a conductive line 21 disposed on the top electrodes and filling inside the opening and the trench continuously, wherein the conductive line is no higher vertically than the top electrode. However, in *Choi*, the element 21 is a top plug layer or a plug (see col. 3, line 47-55). In other words, the element 21 is a conductive layer or a conductive plug, which is similar to a contact or via. Significantly, element 21 is not a conductive line as recited in claim 34 of the invention. As the element "a conductive line..." is not disclosed in *Choi* (US 6,072,210), the rejection of claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) should be withdrawn.

In addition, the rejection of claims 35 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) should also be withdrawn for at least the same reason, because of dependence thereof from claim 34.

Applicants therefore respectfully traverse the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for at least the aforementioned reasons.

As claim 34 should be allowed, dependent claims 37-40 should be allowed as well.

Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 41, 42 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by *Chiang et al.* (US 6,656,785 B2).

The Office Action alleged that *Chiang et al.* (US 6,656,785 B2) discloses a DRAM structure comprising two conductive lines 180 filling the two trenches respectively and continuously and continuously in contact with the trenched capacitors, as recited in claim 41. In *Chiang et al.*, the element 180 is a conductive line filling the two trenches respectively and continuously and continuously in contact with the trenched capacitors but not two conductive lines. The conductive lines marked by Office Action are just conductive materials filling in the trenched capacitors and at most regarded as vias or contacts but not conductive lines. Since the claimed element "two conductive lines..." is not disclosed in *Chiang et al.*, the rejection of claim 41 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn. In addition, the rejection of claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should also be withdrawn for at least the same reason, because of its dependence from claim 41. Applicant therefore respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) for at least the aforementioned reasons.

As claim 41 should be allowed, claims 43-47 should be allowed for at least the same reason.

For at least the same reasons, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

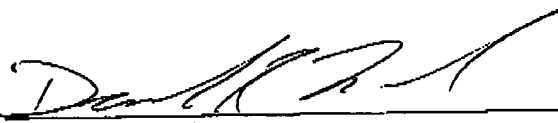
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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